

## ***Conops silaceus* Wiedemann in Meigen, 1824 (Diptera, Conopidae): First record from Portugal**

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According to the checklist of Carles-Tolrá & Báez (2002), *Conops silaceus* Wiedemann, 1824 (in Meigen, 1824) has not previously been recorded from Portugal although it is known from Spain. A single male of this species was swept from the flowers of a mint species (*Mentha cf. spicata*) growing in woodland with *Vinca major*, *Rubus ulmifolius*, *Phytolacca americana*, *Picris sp.* and *Pinus pinaster* at Póvoa Dão, near Silgueiros in the Viseu district of northern Portugal (40° 33' 3.78" N ; 7° 56' 36.85" W) by JMA on 21st August 2008. The specimen was subsequently identified by DKC from photographs via the *Diptera Info* website (<http://www.diptera.info>). *Conops silaceus* Wiedemann in Meigen, 1824 is a local but widely distributed species of southern and eastern Europe, with records currently known from Crete, Croatia, France, Hungary, Italy and Romania, as well as from Spain (Pape & Clements, 2005).

There are also records from the former Soviet Union (Chvála & Smith 1988). It is one of only two *Conops* Linnaeus, 1758 in Europe in which the scutellum is completely yellow, the other species being the commoner and more generally distributed *Conops scutellatus* Meigen, 1824. This latter species is, however, more

delicate and has a predominantly black body colour (mainly yellow in the larger and more robust *silaceus*), whilst the yellow frons has a narrow vertical black stripe in contrast to the broad, black horizontal band in the upper frons of *C. silaceus*. The larval habits are unknown, but the species is assumed to be an endoparasitoid of aculeate Hymenoptera.

**References:** CARLES-TOLRÁ, M. & M. BÁEZ 2002. Conopidae, 157. In: Carles-Tolrá Hjorth-Andersen, M. (Coord.) *Catálogo de los Dípteros de España, Portugal y Andorra*. Monografías S.E.A. 8. Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa, Zaragoza. 323pp. • CHVÁLA, M. & K. G. V. SMITH 1988. Family Conopidae, 245-272. In: Soós, A. & Papp, L. (Eds.) *Catalogue of Palearctic Diptera* 8. Syrphidae – Conopidae. Elsevier Science Publishing, Amsterdam & Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest. 363pp. • PAPE, T. & D. K. CLEMENTS 2005. Family: Conopidae. In: Pape, T. (Coord.) *Fauna Europaea: Diptera Brachycera*. *Fauna Europaea* version 1.2, <http://www.faunaeur.org>.